

Amendments to the Specification:

Please rewrite the paragraph commencing at page 3, line 7, as follows:

When a user selects a paragraph or a portion of a paragraph to copy, the user may or may not select the paragraph marker at the end of the paragraph. When a user pastes text having a paragraph marker at the end, the formatting of that pasted text may be different than if the user had pasted text without the paragraph marker at the end. Usability studies indicate that users commonly inadvertently include or exclude a paragraph mark from selected text. As a result, a user will commonly be surprised by the formatting behavior upon pasting such selected text. The present invention will automatically include in a selection a ~~paragraphmarker~~ paragraph marker at the end of a selected paragraph, if every other textual character in the paragraph has been selected. This behavior is based on the assumption that the user intends to select the entire paragraph, as a paragraph, rather than as unformatted text. The user may override this behavior by moving the selection cursor to the left of the paragraph marker before finalizing the text selection. In addition, the present invention will discard a paragraph mark that is included in pasted text if the pasted text is pasted into the middle of another paragraph, indicating that the user prefers the formatting of the pasted-into paragraph. Thus, the present invention assists a user in selecting and pasting text where a paragraph marker may alter the formatting of the pasted text.

Please rewrite the paragraph commencing at page 12, line 3, as follows:

Figure 2 is a block diagram depicting an exemplary formatting component **204** **138** operating within the context of a word processor **200**. In this exemplary embodiment of the present invention word processor **200** is a document editor that can be used to create and manipulate a source document **202** and a target document **203**. The formatting component **204** **138** works in cooperation with the word processor **200** to provide formatting and editing tools for the source document **202** and for the target document **203**. The formatting component **204** **138** can maintain information about the documents **202**, **203** including, but not limited to, information about text formatting, table formatting, chart formatting, and list formatting. The

formatting component **204 138** also can control the way that document elements (e.g., text) are cut, copied, and pasted within and between the source document **202** and the target document **203**.

Please rewrite the paragraph commencing at page 12, line 16, as follows:

Text formatting is typically applied to text in ~~he~~ the document **202, 203** as a style or as a direct formatting property. Styles are simply named collections of formatting properties. For example, a "body text" style may include the formatting properties, font: Times Roman, font size: 12 point, bold: no, alignment: justified, while a "Headline" style may include the formatting properties, font: Arial, font size: 20, bold: yes. The styles may be applied to text thereby formatting the text in accordance with the formatting properties that are members of the named style. Of course, each formatting property can be individually applied to text.

Please rewrite the paragraph commencing at page 13, line 1, as follows:

Individualized application of formatting properties to text is referred to as direct formatting. Text may be formatted identically through direct formatting and the application of a style. However, style application is a quicker and easier method of applying formatting properties to the text in a portion of a document. Moreover, styles are used to verify formatting consistency among portions of a document that have the same style applied to them. Changes to the collection of formatting properties in a style will simultaneously change the format of all text to which that styles is applied. The formatting component **204 138** of an exemplary embodiment of the present invention maintains a record of the formatting properties associated with each portion of the document **202**.

Please rewrite the paragraph commencing at page 13, line 12, as follows:

The formatting component **204 138** of an exemplary embodiment of the present invention can automatically re-format a document element that is cut, copied or pasted between documents or between portions of the same document. The formatting component **204 138** can re-format a document element, based on the properties of the document element, the behavior of a user, the

context from which the document element was cut or copied, and/or context into which the document element is pasted.

Please rewrite the paragraph commencing at page 13, line 19 and extending to page 14, line 5, as follows:

One means by which the formatting component **204 138** can automatically trigger re-formatting is through the use of rules maintained in a formatting rules component **206 139**. The formatting rules component can maintain a list of rules that describe events that can trigger an automatic re-formatting. For example, one rule might recognize the occurrence of an event wherein the user attempts to copy and past a single cell of a table. The formatting rules component **206 139** may also have a list of responsive actions associated with the list of rules. When a rule is triggered, the formatting rules component **206 139** may instruct the formatting component **204 138** to execute the associated responsive action. Notably, those skilled in the art will appreciate that not all of the formatting rules need be implemented simultaneously.

Please rewrite the paragraph commencing at page 14, line 6, as follows:

The formatting component **204 138** of an exemplary embodiment of the present invention also can provide an On-Object User Interface (OOUI) to enable a user to recover from or reconfigure an automatic reformatting. The OOUI may be automatically displayed within the context of a document editor (e.g., spreadsheet program, word processor, presentation, web page editor), in response to an automatic re-formatting action taken by the formatting component **204 138**. The OOUI can be selected by a user to provide a drop-down menu of available recovery options. Thus, the user is not required to accept the automatic reformatting action taken by the formatting component **204 138**. A more detailed description of the OOUI can be found in ~~co-~~pending U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 09/620,876, filed on July 21, 2000 and U.S. Patent Number 6,583,798 assigned to Microsoft Corporation of Redmond, WA. That patent application is entitled "ON-OBJECT USER INTERFACE" and is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.

Please rewrite the paragraph commencing at page 15, line 1, as follows:

It will also be appreciated that the OOUI or other recovery user interface can be displayed following an automatic formatting action to allow a user to reverse the formatting action. In addition, the recovery user interface can be displayed following a user's selection of a recovery action and the performance of that recovery action. Accordingly, the user can sequentially select various recovery actions from a recovery user interface to determine the effects of each, before deciding on a preferred recovery action. Although the descriptions provided in connection with Figures ~~412~~ 4-12 may not describe the provision of a recovery user interface following an automatic action or a recovery action, those skilled in the art will appreciate that such a recovery user interface could be provided within the scope of the embodiments of the present invention.

Please rewrite the paragraph commencing at page 16, line 23 and extending to page 17, line 11, as follows:

It will be appreciated by those skilled in the art that various methods for triggering re-formatting actions and for providing access to recovery actions may be used within the scope of the present invention. Figures 4-12 are flow charts that define exemplary methods for re-formatting document elements and for providing recovery options, following such a re-formatting. The flow charts of Figures 4-12 do not necessarily describe the triggering of a formatting rule. However, it will be appreciated by those skilled in the art that the methods described in Figures ~~412~~ 4-12 could be implemented with a collection of rules and associated response of actions or by various other well-known means. For the purposes of this description, a document from which text is cut or copied, is referred to as the source document. The document to which selected text is pasted is referred to as the target document. Those skilled in the art will appreciate that the source document and the target document may be the same document.

Please rewrite the paragraph commencing at page 18, line 7 and extending to page 19, line 2, as follows:

Figure 4 begins with step **400** and proceeds to step **402**. At step **402**, text is selected for copying or cutting (collectively, copying). The method then proceeds to step **404**, wherein the portion of the last paragraph selected is determined. In the case of a single paragraph, this step will determine how much of the paragraph was selected for copying. In the case where a user is selecting a group of paragraphs, a determination of the portion of the last paragraph selected will be made. The method proceeds from step **404** to decision block **406**. At decision block **406**, a determination is made as to whether every textual character in the last paragraph was selected. That is, a determination is made as to whether every visible character in the last paragraph has been selected for copying by the user. If the user has selected every textual character in the last paragraph, it may be assumed that the user intended to copy the paragraph as a paragraph (i.e., with a paragraph mark at the end). If on the other hand the user has selected only a portion of the last paragraph, then it can be assumed that the user only intended to select the selected text and to paste the selected text as part of a paragraph in the existing target document. If a determination is made that not every character in the last paragraph was selected, the method branches to step ~~408~~ **418** and ends. If on the other hand, a determination is made that every textual character in the last paragraph was selected, the method branches to decision block **410**.

Please rewrite the paragraph commencing at page 23, line 3, as follows:

If a determination is made at step **606** that the selected text has an associated style, the method branches to decision block **607**. At decision block **607**, a determination is made as to whether a corresponding style exists in the target document. If a corresponding style exists in the target document, then the styles must be reconciled. If on the other hand, no corresponding style exists in the target document, the method branches to step **612**. At step **612**, the selected text is pasted at the paste point. The method proceeds from step **612** to step **614**. At step **614**, the pasted text is formatted in its original, associated style. The method then proceeds ~~to 616~~ to 616 and ends.

Please rewrite the paragraph commencing at page 23, line 13, as follows:

If a determination is made at decision block **607** that a corresponding style exists in the target document, the method branches to decision block **608**. At decision block **608**, a determination is made as to whether a corresponding style in the target document belongs to a style group. Style groups are well-known collections of styles that are grouped for various reasons. For example, heading styles may be used to associate various heading styles with a particular hierarchy. Such a hierarchy may be used, for example, to create an ordered table of contents. If, on the other hand, a determination is made that a corresponding style does not exist in the target document, the method branches from decision block **607** to ~~decision block **608**~~ step **612** and proceeds as described above.

Please rewrite the paragraph commencing at page 25, line 4, as follows:

Although the method of Figure 6 describes maintaining the pasted text in its original style, it will be appreciated by those skilled in the art that the pasted text may be reconfigured to adopt the formatting properties of the corresponding style. This option may be selected by the user in a preferences file or may be selected by user using an OOUI, as described above on a case-by-case basis. Additionally, the ~~method of~~ method of Figure 6 may be modified within the scope of the present invention to include the step of displaying a recovery user interface to enable the selection of recovery actions associated with the performance of a particular paste action and/or style reformatting (e.g., after step 612). In one embodiment of the present invention, one such recovery action includes negating an automatic application of a source document style and the application of a corresponding target document style to the pasted text or vice versa.

Please rewrite the paragraph commencing at page 26, line 10, as follows:

At decision block **706**, a determination is made as to whether the text was cut from the beginning or end of the source document. If the text was cut from either the beginning or the end of the source document, the method branches to step **712**. If, on the other hand, the text was not cut from either the beginning or the end of the source document, the method branches to decision block **708**. At decision block **708**, a determination is made as to whether the number ~~of~~ of empty

paragraphs between the closest non-empty paragraphs are more than a pre-defined threshold value. The pre-defined threshold value may simply be an estimate as to the number of empty paragraphs present in the source document that may indicate that the user intends to remove empty paragraphs from the source document by virtue of the cutting action. If the number of empty paragraphs is more than the pre-defined threshold value, the method branches to step **712**. If the number of empty paragraphs is less than or equal to the threshold value, the method branches to step **710**.

Please rewrite the paragraph commencing at page 29, line 14 and extending to page 30, line 3, as follows:

Step ~~710~~ **710** is also performed when the method branches from decision blocks **704**, **706**, and **708**. If, at decision block **704**, a determination is made that the selected text was selected by way of a copy action, then the method branches to step **712** to determine the target document and paste point. Because no cutting action is involved, there is no need to perform step **710**, which eliminates empty paragraphs from the source document. Likewise, when a determination is made at decision block ~~706~~ **706** that the selected text was cut from the beginning or end of the source document, an assumption is made that empty paragraphs need not be removed, and the method branches around step **710** to step **712**. Finally, where a determination is made at decision block **708** that the number of empty paragraphs between the closest (to the cut point) non-empty paragraphs is greater than the predefined threshold value, then an assumption is made that not empty paragraphs need to be removed. Thus, the method branches from decision block ~~708~~ **708** to step ~~712~~ **712**.

Please rewrite the paragraph commencing at page 32, line 9, as follows:

Returning now to decision **806**, if a determination is made that the paste point is not immediately preceded or followed by a list paragraph, the method branches to step **810**, the selected list text is pasted at the paste point as a new, independent list. The method then proceeds to ~~step 818~~ **step 818** and ends.

Please rewrite the paragraph commencing at page 34, line 12, as follows:

Returning now to step **908**, if a determination is made that the paste point is within an existing table, the method branches to ~~step 926~~ step 926. At step **926**, the selected table is pasted in the pasted location as a nested table. That is, the pasted table text will be an independent table within the existing table. Notably, the selected table text will be pasted as it was originally formatted in the source document. The method proceeds from step **926** to step **928**. At step **928**, a recovery user interface (e.g., an OOUUI) is displayed. The method then proceeds to decision block **930**. At decision block **930**, a determination is made as to whether the user selects a recovery action from the recovery user interface. If no recovery selection is made, the method branches to step **946 920** and ends. If, on the other hand a determination is made at decision **930** that a recovery action has been selected, the method branches to decision block **934**.

Please rewrite the paragraph commencing at page 35, line 1, as follows:

At decision block **934**, a determination is made as to whether the merge table recovery action has been selected. If the merge table recovery action has been selected, the method branches from decision block **934** to step **948**. At step **948**, the selected table text is merged with the existing table (i.e., the target table). As described above, the selected table text will be formatted in accordance with the target table. The method then proceeds to step **946 920** and ends.

Please rewrite the paragraph commencing at page 35, line 22 and extending to page 36, line 6, as follows:

Returning now to decision block **910**, if a determination is made that the selected table text is a single cell, the method branches to step **938**. At step **938**, the cell contents are pasted as regular text at the paste point. The method proceeds to step **940**, wherein a recovery user interface is displayed. The method proceeds from step **940** to decision block **942**. At decision block **942**, a determination is made as to whether a recovery action is selected. If no recovery action is selected, the method branches to step **946 920** and ends. On the other hand, if a

recovery action is selected, the method branches to step **944**. At step **944**, the cell is pasted as a single cell table. The method proceeds from step **944** to **946 920** and ends.

Please rewrite the paragraph commencing at page 38, line 20 and extending to page 39, line 11, as follows:

If at decision block **1032**, a determination is made that the user has not selected the match target table formatting with link recovery action, the method branches to decision block **1034**. At decision block **1034**, a determination is made as to whether the apply style or formatting recovery action has been selected. If this recovery action has been selected, the method branches to step **1036**. At step **1036**, a formatting user interface is displayed with which the user may format the selected table text. A detailed description of the formatting user interface is described in a co-pending U.S. Patent Application Serial Number _____, (~~Attorney Docket No.:~~ ~~60001.0046US01~~) 09/876,489, also assigned to Microsoft Corporation of Redmond, WA. That patent application is entitled "INTERACTIVE FORMATTING INTERFACE" and is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety. The method of Figure 10 proceeds from step **1036** to step **1038** and ends. Returning to decision block **1034**, if a determination is made that the user has not selected the apply style or formatting recovery action, then it is assumed that the user has not selected a recovery action in the method branches to step ~~**1038**~~ **1022** and ends.

Please rewrite the paragraph commencing at page 41, line 24 and extending to page 42, line 8, as follows:

If a determination is made as decision block **1120** that the keep text only recovery action had not been selected, the method branches to decision block **1130**. At decision block **1130**, a determination is made as to whether the apply style or formatting recovery action has been selected. If this recovery action has been selected, the method proceeds to step **1132**. If this recovery action has not been selected, the method branches to step ~~**1134**~~ **1122** and ends. At step **1132**, the formatting user interface described above in connection with Figure 10 is displayed. This user interface allows the user to format the selected text as desired. The method proceeds from step **1132** to step ~~**1134**~~ **1122** and ends.